

2. (reiterated) The method of claim 1 wherein the MDA-9 is encoded by an endogenous gene.

3. (reiterated) A method for determining whether a test compound modulates the drug resistance of a cell, the method comprising:

- a) incubating MDA-9 protein in the presence of a test compound;
- b) determining whether the test compound binds to the MDA-9 protein;
- c) selecting a test compound which binds to the MDA-9 protein;
- d) administering the test compound selected in step c) to a non-human mammal having drug resistant cells;
- e) determining whether the test compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in the non-human mammal; and
- f) identifying the test compound as a modulator of drug resistance of the cell if the compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in step e).

21. (reiterated) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of expression of MDA-9 mRNA is determined by measuring the level of mRNA encoding MDA-9.

22. (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of expression of MDA-9 is determined by measuring the level of MDA-9 protein.

Please add new claims 23-25 as follows.

23. (newly added) A method for determining whether a test compound is a candidate modulator of the drug resistance of a cell, the method comprising:

- a) determining the level of MDA-9 expression in a cell in the presence of a test compound;
- b) determining the level of MDA-9 expression in the cell in the absence of the test compound; and

c) selecting a compound as a candidate modulator of drug resistance in the cell if the level of expression of MDA-9 in the cell in the presence of the test compound differs from the level of expression of MDA-9 in the cell in the absence of the test compound;

d) administering the test compound selected in step c) to a non-human mammal having drug resistant cells;

e) determining whether the candidate modulator of drug resistance alters the drug resistance of the cells in the non-human mammal; and

f) identifying the candidate modulator of drug resistance as a modulator of drug resistance of the cell if the compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in step e).

24. (newly added) The method of claim 23 wherein the level of expression of MDA-9 mRNA is determined by measuring the level of mRNA encoding MDA-9.

25. (newly added) The method of claim 23 wherein the level of expression of MDA-9 is determined by measuring the level of MDA-9 protein.

